



Termly Tale

Headteacher's News

We recently heard the very sad news of the deaths of two members of the Paternoster 'family':

Our former cleaner Linda Norris, who retired two years' ago, died suddenly. Linda was mum to former pupil Daniel, who left six years ago. She had been receiving treatment for cancer and had just been given good news regarding her prognosis and then suffered a stroke. I attended Linda's funeral on 22nd April with a group of staff and former staff.

We were also very saddened to hear of the death of much-loved former pupil Joshua King. Josh had moved to Cumbria last year. He had battled severe chest infections with great spirit over many years.

This term we welcomed Michael Blick to Class 5 and Poppy Gough to Class 1, taking us to 49 pupils on roll. We welcomed Lisa Tripp back from maternity leave last week – she will now work two days a week in Class 2.

The inset day on 22nd April included sessions for all staff on maths calculation methods, THRASS (both run by Clare Duncan), iPads (run by Jennie Walsh) and training in using the pool light and sound system. At our inset day tomorrow staff and governors will be thinking about our school values, as we begin to identify school developments for next year

Thank you to everyone who helped by running stalls or attending the Spring Fayre last Saturday – it was lovely to see so many pupils, former pupils, staff and friends of the school. A very big thank you to Emma Sutton, chair of the Friends, Cathy Brown, vice chair, Kate Kinsey, Anita Larrard and Jamie Nesbit, Friends' treasurer, for all their hard work in organising the event.

Our school budget has been cut again this year and is £36,000 less than last year. Governors are supportive of maintaining existing staffing levels and so we have had to cut back on items such as building repairs, staff training and resource purchasing in order to balance the budget.

We have had a high number of parents cancelling annual review meetings this year. Please be mindful of the impact this has on us, as it is not always easy to reschedule the meetings due to the high number of staff commitments. Changes also impact on the workload of the office staff. It is a legal requirement to review the statement annually and we are obliged to do so within one year of the previous review. Next school year, please let us know if you need to change the date when we notify you during the autumn term.

One of our pupils has recently been seriously ill in hospital for several weeks after catching a very heavy cold in school. Please be mindful of our more vulnerable pupils and ensure you keep children off if they have heavy colds.

I hope the sun shines for the holiday and you all have a good week.

Julie Mantell

'Blue' the Hare

Paternoster pupils have finished decorating the hare and it is now on view outside the school. Please come and see it! Further information can be found at <http://www.cirencesterharefestival.org.uk/>



Governor Spot Light

This term Sam Parkes is the governor in the spot light. Sam joined the governing body earlier this year. Sam is married to Penny with two children aged 10 and 8. He lives with his family in Rendcomb Village. Sam's hobbies are watching Bath Rugby Club, walking and, when he can do it, skiing. Sam works as a senior Lecturer in Property and Construction at Royal Agricultural University, since 2006, he also runs his own surveying firm in Cirencester area, called P2 Surveyors and specialises in energy efficiency buildings and systems.

Sam went to Milton Abbey School in Dorset and then to Royal Agricultural College (as it was then) and went on to become a Rural Surveyor or 'Land Agent' with his initial training being done with Savills in Bath, where he lived for a few years. At the Ag College Sam was RAG and Union Chairman and raised money regularly for Paternoster, he also did baby swimming classes in the pool with his daughter. Sam says he always knew what a brilliant school it was and hence was delighted to have been considered as a governor.

Maths Week

This week has been our first 'Maths Week' at school. All the classes have focused on an aspect of using and applying. Some classes went shopping and did baking for the parents' assembly. Classes also worked on shapes, ordinal numbers, using equipment and geometric patterns. Thanks to Ullin Jodah McStea, maths co-ordinator, for organising this.

Paternoster Spring Fayre – 17th May



The Friends of Paternoster Spring Fayre was an afternoon full of sunshine, fun and plenty of cake! The cow milking, face painting, skittles and lots of other games meant that there was something to do for all ages. With stalls to browse, cream teas to enjoy, live music to lift everyone's spirits and just over £1000 raised, the fayre was a success! A big thank you to everyone who contributed whether in big ways or small.

The Friends of Paternoster

25 years' service

Last term Marilyn Stanley, midday supervisor, was congratulated for her long service. Marilyn was presented with a certificate by the school vice president.. The school had undoubtedly changed over 25 years!



PGL

Last week some pupils from Class 5 and Class 6 went on an action-packed residential visit to PGL in Liddington. Activities on offer included quad biking, zip wire, abseiling, giant swing, problem solving, the crate challenge, obstacle courses, sensory trails and vertical challenge. All the pupils showed great determination in trying new activities and came back full of smiles. Thank you to the staff who gave up their time to accompany the pupils on this very rewarding week.

